

Kentucky Lung Cancer Research Program  
Governance Board Meeting  
Wednesday February 27, 2008; 1:00 to 2:30 pm  
Capital Plaza Hotel  
405 Wilkinson Boulevard; Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

## Minutes

*In the absence of Harry Carloss, MD, MACP, Board Chair, Donald Miller, MD, PhD, served as Chair for this meeting.*

Board members in attendance: Bonnie Roberts, Stephanie Foley, Walter Baker, John Eaton, Donald Miller, Tim Mullett, John Rinehart

Excused members: John Turner, Harry Carloss

Guests: Linda Linville, CPE, Kris Damron, KCTN, Robert Means, Markey Cancer Center

## AGENDA

### Governance Focus

#### Governor's Budget allocation

The budget figures included in the Governor's Budget (HB 406, pages 179-180) are

- ✓ FY 2009 tentative allocation = \$5,586,100 minus \$775,000 for the Ovarian Screening Program, or **\$4,811,100** to be equitably split between the two Program sites
- ✓ FY 2010 tentative allocation = \$5,680,600 minus \$775,000 as previous year or **\$4,905, 600**, again to be equitably split between the two Program sites
- ✓ In addition, we usually receive supplemental funds midway into a fiscal year that require allocation decisions. The projected amount for the coming two fiscal years are: FY 2008-2009--\$ 899,900; FY 209-2010--\$994,400

Information not discussed but needed as clarification of the allocation of resources:

- ✓ \$1,500,000 of the annual total award is set aside for investigator-initiated grants
- ✓ Split of remaining funds has been determined on a 58% to 42% ratio in order for Brown Cancer Center to contribute to costs for the Kentucky Clinical Trials Network, administrative tasks such as meeting arrangements, and reports for the Authority and other legislated bodies—all handled by the UK KLCR Program Coordinator.

#### Continuation Budget for 2009

- ✓ We shall use the Governor's Budget allocations and revise our budgets when the final amount is determined and the budgets can be developed together.  
[Bonnie Sigafus]

- ✓ The Board understands the need for resources is going to be an issue in the coming two years but wants KLCR Program funds to continue to strengthen appropriate programmatic areas that further the Program's key goals. [Don Miller]
- ✓ Dr. Mullett expressed a coming need to expand the staff of the Kentucky Clinical Trials Network in order to assure continued sufficient personnel to manage the current growth of this mandated initiative. With the success of KCTN to date, room to grow is critical.
- ✓ The Markey BCP started at the Governance Board's request to create a statewide biospecimen repository for lung disease. To accomplish that goal requires additional funds. [Tim Mullett]
- ✓ The decision on how to distribute allocated resources across KLCR Program initiatives should remain an institutional decision. [John Eaton]

### Programmatic Initiative Updates

#### Update on Kentucky Clinical Trials Network

- ✓ See the support material prepared by Ms. Kris Damron. She presented the information in these documents and then responded to questions. Mr. Baker noted, and Kris mentioned the lack of accruals in certain areas of the state. The northern Kentucky area of strong political influence and the Speaker lives in Bowling Green so both of those areas are important ground to capture. [Walter Baker]
- ✓ The time is coming once again to consider the expansion of the Network to other tobacco-related diseases and perhaps some disease not related to tobacco. [Tim Mullett]
- ✓ General feeling of the Board was that the Network is functioning beyond expectation and that Ms Damron is to be commended for her careful husbandry in nurturing this prize initiative of the General Assembly.

#### Early Detection Initiative: University of Louisville

John Eaton reported on several interesting projects at the Brown Cancer Center that focus on early detection and prevention of lung cancer.

- ✓ Douglas Taylor is working on identifying tumor-associated microRNAs for use in diagnosis and in determining staging, prognosis and response to treatment. Dr. Taylor presented his preliminary work during the Scientist Seminar.
- ✓ Paula Bates and her team identified an agent (an oligonucleotide) – currently in Phase II clinical trials – that binds specifically to a protein present on tumor cells. This agent now is being developed as a potential early detection assay. Dr. Bates presented her work during the Scientist Seminar as well.
- ✓ Ramesh Gupta is investigating a dietary cancer prevention strategy. In

animal models of carcinogenesis, he has found that administration of colored berries (such as blueberries and blackberries) may prevent the development of cancers. If this also works in humans there is the potential for decreasing the incidence of cancers in large populations.

- ✓ Andrew Lane, Teresa Fan and Donald Miller have been using 'metabolomics' to discover how lung tumors and normal tissue differ. Their results have provided valuable clues as to what makes lung tumors tick – and they are now using that information to extend their investigators to analyzing exhaled air as the basis for a new test to detect the very early presence of lung cancer.
- ✓ John Trent is one of the inaugural ten recipients of the Science Innovator Award from Apple Computer for his project that partners with Kentucky Datastream to harness unused computer power in more than 50 school districts across Kentucky to identify targets for new cancer therapies.

## **Administrative Focus**

### Policy and Procedures Handbook Update

- ✓ The KLCR Program Governance Board last reviewed and approved Policy and Procedure Handbook in 2003. The Program has grown and changed since then but the Handbook did not stay current with those many changes. [Bonnie Sigafus]
- ✓ With new members on the Board, this is an excellent time to review and amend the Handbook for new members will notice what is missing when the rest of the Board does not. Dr. Sigafus marked items for deletion, addition, or amendment and asks that the Board members please consider these suggestions along with considering what information is missing.

### Strategic Plan & Public Hearing

*NOTE: Mandated two-year updates and matched public hearing*

- ✓ The Cancer Center administrators will work together to construct the next Strategic Plan around the NIH/NCI Roadmap. Dr. Sigafus will draft a document for improvement by Board members.
- ✓ The roadmap structure will result in a common language, one shared by both cancer centers and NIH/NCI. [Robert Means] and provide the Board the opportunity to look at their mission in a different light.
- ✓ The mandated public hearing is to share the Strategic Plan and receive public input. Dr. Sigafus will look at possible sites in Bowling Green and northern Kentucky that would meet the needs of a combined Governance Board meeting and Public Hearing.

New business, next meeting, and close out

Marketing the Program, revisited

- ✓ Tim Mullett wondered about using a questionnaire to all previously funded Principal Investigators' asking if they see opportunities for translational follow up studies to their original research and/or possible movement to clinical testing.
- ✓ Don Miller suggests a glossy brochure with objectively stated research results that will highlight successful studies and researchers. Diane Konzen has already begun putting together such a document.
- ✓ Bonnie Roberts suggests that KCTN personalize clinical trials so that the source of the funds to support the study are communicated to possible participants and the use of such publications and Owensboro's high quality Vim and Vigor magazine to spread the word about the KLCR Program's activities that touch the lives of Kentuckians.
- ✓ Kris Damron described the video CD she recently produced where the PI of a trial introduces the study to possible participants.
- ✓ The Marty Driesler Cancer Project sites produce marketing documents that could include information on KLCR Program activities.

#### Cycle 8 Update

- ✓ Diane informed the Board that the letters of intent to submit an application are due in mid-March. When those letters arrive, we will have a good idea on the size of the reviewer activity. She explained that history informs us we can expect around 60 applications.

#### Word from the Chair

- ✓ Don Miller had heard from Harry Carloss who is retiring from active medical practice because of health problems. Dr. Carloss wanted us informed that he will be back!

#### Final Words

- ✓ Linda Linville, CPE, asked us not to forget the purpose of the KLCR Program is to wipe out lung cancer.

The actual words in the enabling legislation are:

“Develop an expertise in the area of lung cancer research with an immediate focus on early detection and epidemiology and with an ultimate goal of eradication of lung cancer.”